



TNRCC REGULATORY GUIDANCE

Municipal Solid Waste Division

RG-126

September 1996

SUBJECT: Special Waste Minimization

Alternatives to Landfill Disposal

In keeping with Senate Bill 1340, the Omnibus Recycling Bill of 1991, waste generators in Texas are encouraged to reduce, reuse, and recycle materials whenever possible. This will help reduce the amount of solid waste ending up in landfills. Landfill space is finite, and specific goals have been set to extend the life of existing municipal solid waste facilities. This document is designed to help the "special waste generator" become aware of and explore alternatives to landfill disposal for many special waste streams. Owners/operators of small businesses may contact the agency's Small Business Advocate's Office toll-free at 1-800-824-7247. For pollution prevention (P2) information, call 1-512-239-3100.

Regulations for reuse/recycling activities depend on the types of activities generating the waste:

- industrial and hazardous wastes are regulated under Title 30 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) Chapter 335;
- waste from petroleum storage tanks is regulated under 30 TAC Chapter 334;
- municipal solid waste is regulated under 30 TAC Chapter 330;
- municipal wastewater treatment plant sludges are regulated under 30 TAC Chapter 312;
- waste associated with oil and gas exploration activities is regulated by the Railroad Commission of Texas (RRC) but is also considered "special waste" when being disposed of in a municipal landfill. Therefore, it also is subject to 30 TAC Chapter 330.

The following chart gives waste generators alternatives to landfill disposal. Please see the key on the reverse side that defines the various options. In the following table, the initials RRC show that the waste is regulated by the Railroad Commission of Texas.

Waste Material	Alternative to Landfill Disposal
Asphaltic material (weathered and nonweathered)	C3
Abrasives (e.g., sand)	A1, C4
Barrels/drums	B, P2
Beer	A2, C2, F
Brush and vegetation (RRC)	C2, C5, P2
Buckets, detergent/grease (RRC)	B, P2
Coal ash	G
Concrete (uncontaminated)	C4
Containers (empty)	B, P2
Creosote wood floor blocks	A1, P2
Drilling muds/additives (unused)	A1, A2, P2
Drugs/pharmaceuticals	A2
Fluorescent lamps	B, P2
Fly ash	G
Food waste	C2
Fuel filters	D
Grease trap waste	C2
Incinerator ash	G
Lead acid batteries	B, P2
Light ballasts	B, P2
Mercury salts	B, P2
Metal (plate, pipe, cable, etc.)	B
Oil filters	D
Paint booth filters	D, P2
PCB ballasts	B, P2
Pumps/junked valves (RCC)	B, P2
Railroad ties/telephone poles (new, used)	A1, P2
Sludges (municipal)	C1
Soils contaminated with petroleum products	C3, E, P2
Sorbent materials	D, P2
Sulfur, ferrous—elemental sulfur and soil contaminated with sulfur	B, P2
Tank seals (RRC)	D, P2
Tank sediments	C3, D, P2
Unused product	A2, F, P2
Wine	A2, C2, F
Wood chips, wooden pallets	B, C2, C5, D, P2

Key

A. Reuse

1. Material used for its intended purpose does not constitute "waste" (see definition of "solid waste" in 30 TAC Section 330.2 and/or 30 TAC Section 335.1).
2. For unused product, modify inventory control to prevent overstocking of dated product, or contact the manufacturer for return of the product for reuse.

B. Recovery and/or Reclamation

For information on this alternative, contact the Office of Pollution Prevention and Recycling at (512) 239-6750. A catalog titled **Recycle Texas** can help provide information about some recycling enterprises whose services may be available to waste generators. In addition, the **RENEW** catalog provides specific information to link potential waste generators with individuals/companies that may be able to use potential waste.

C. Land Application

1. For information on beneficial land application, contact the Sludge and Transporter Review Unit of Watershed Management's Permits Section for information on required permits, and for use of municipal wastewater treatment plant sludges at (512) 239-4400.
2. Contact the Composting Team of the Waste Recycling/Waste Minimization Section in the Office of Pollution Prevention and Recycling at (512) 239-6769. *Note:* Grease trap waste may require a permit for composting activity.
3. Check local telephone listings for facilities that may be able to accept used asphalt material for reuse.
4. Natural or man-made inert solid materials may be used to fill land if the object of the fill is to make the land suitable for the construction of surface improvements. This material **must** meet the definition of "essentially insoluble" found in 30 TAC Section 330.2. For industrial generators, 30 TAC Section 335.1, definition of solid waste, Paragraph (A) (ii) also applies.
5. For information about direct land application of composted and unprocessed yard trimmings and clean wood waste, contact the Composting Team of the Waste Recycling/Waste Minimization Section in the Office of Pollution Prevention and Recycling at (512) 239-6769.

D. Energy Recovery

Waste-to-energy facilities are permitted through the New Source Review Division of the Office of Air Quality. Some permitted units are mobile and may burn many suitable categories of combustible waste.

E. Bio-Remediation

Elevated levels of Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons (TPH) in soil may be decreased by bio-remediation activity, either at a permitted facility or on-site by the generator. Treated materials *may possibly* be used as alternate daily cover at a permitted municipal solid waste landfill.

F. Sewer Discharge

One-time discharge of quantities of nonhazardous containerized liquid waste may be permissible in accordance with local sewer discharge requirements. Contact the local wastewater treatment facility for any restrictions.

G. Use as Raw Material

Some types of **nonhazardous** ash materials may be suitable for use as a cement amendment.

P2. Pollution Prevention

Possible alternatives to reducing waste streams. Alternative resources can source reduce these waste streams.